

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10074 151423Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 NRC-07 ERDA-07 ACDA-10 PA-02  
PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
PM-04 DODE-00 FEA-01 EB-07 IO-14 /100 W  
-----068393 152356Z /66

R 151301Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4748  
INFO USIA WASHDC  
AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 10074

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: MNUC, TECH  
SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTARY ON TARAPUR AND PNE'S  
REF: NEW DELHI 9999

1. IN THE JULY 15 "INDIAN EXPRESS" T.V. PARASURAM REPORTS THAT THE NRC DECISION IN FAVOR OF THE FUEL SHIPMENT FOR TARAPUR WAS GUIDED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S WARNING ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ADVERSE DECISION ON INDIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSURANCES ABOUT THE NEW GOI. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT REPORTEDLY INFORMED THE NRC THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE HELD TO DEAL WITH TECHNICAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE SPENT FUEL AT TARAPUR AND THE BROADER QUESTION OF NON-PROLIFERATION. THE DEPARTMENT TOLD THE NRC THAT "THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE US IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE A DETERMINATION THAT THIS TARAPUR INDIAN REPROCESSING FACILITY CAN BE EFFECTIVELY SAFEGUARDED." THE COMMISSION REPORTEDLY WAS SATISFIED ON THIS BASIS THAT THE USG WOULD NOT PERMIT REPROCESSING OF US SUPPLIED MATERIAL "IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE."

2. PARASURAM REPORTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT DISMISSED  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NEW DE 10074 151423Z

THE NOTION THAT TARAPUR COULD BE OVERRUN IN A FUTURE WAR WITH THE ARGUMENT THAT "INDIA IS NOW BEYOND QUESTION THE PRE-EMINENT POWER IN SOUTH ASIA." THE JOURNALIST CITES TWO PROBLEMS WHICH COULD PROVE TROUBLESOME. THE FIRST IS THAT THE USG WILL ATTEMPT TO BRING NON-US SUPPLIED FACILITIES UNDER SAFEGUARDS. HOWEVER, CURRENT US POLICY DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT NUCLEAR EXPORTS BE DENIED

TO COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT IMPOSED SAFEGUARDS, IF THERE ARE SUFFICIENT GUARANTEES THAT US MATERIAL AND MATERIAL PRODUCED THEREFROM WILL BE UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. MORE SERIOUS IS THE QUESTION OF FUTURE PNE'S. THE STATE DEPARTMENT REPORTEDLY ASSURED THE NRC THAT THE GOI HAS BEEN INFORMED "OF THE NEW U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY THAT WE WILL BE UNABLE IN THE FUTURE TO CONTINUE NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH A NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATE THAT DETONATES A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICE." THE COMMISSION THEREFORE CONCLUDED THAT THE GOI IS ON NOTICE THAT A FUTURE PNE, REGARDLESS OF THE SOURCE OF THE MATERIAL OR THE TECHNOLOGY, WILL RESULT IN THE TERMINATION OF THE SUPPLY OF FUEL TO TARAPUR.

3. PARASURAM OBSERVES THAT IT WAS THE US WHICH MADE THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN WEAPONS TESTING AND TESTING FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES BUT CHANGED ITS MIND AFTER THE INDIAN EXPLOSION. IF THE SUPERPOWERS CAN AGREE ON BANNING ALL NUCLEAR TESTING AND PERSUADE OTHER NUCLEAR STATES TO FOLLOW THEM, THE THIRD WORLD CANNOT OBJECT.

4. THE "INDIAN EXPRESS" OF JULY 15 EDITORIALY SUPPORTS PRIME MINISTER DESAI'S POSITION ON A FUTURE PNE. "...AT INDIA'S PRESENT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT IT APPEARS IRRELEVANT." INDIA'S OPTIONS, THE PAPER CAUTIONS, SHOULD NOT BE FORECLOSED EXCEPT AFTER A FULL SCIENTIFIC

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NEW DE 10074 151423Z

STUDY.

5. THE CPI'S "PATRIOT" NOT UNEXPECTEDLY CRITICIZES THE PM'S POSITION ON A PNE. THE JULY 15 EDITORIAL ARGUES THAT THE COUNTRY'S OPTIONS SHOULD NOT BE FORECLOSED "IN FITS OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS." THE PAPER STATES THAT "PERHAPS" DESAI WAS MORE INFLUENCED BY THE US DEMAND THAT TESTING BE ABANDONED IN ORDER TO OBTAIN NUCLEAR FUEL THAN BY SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION. GOHEEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, NUCLEAR FUELS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE10074  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770253-0333  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770753/aaaabtok.tel  
**Line Count:** 103  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 3148c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 NEW DELHI 9999  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1849230  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS COMMENTARY ON TARAPUR AND PNEVS  
**TAGS:** MNUC, TECH, US, IN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/3148c06a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009